

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 00868 071952Z

61

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-02 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2098

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 0868

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, CASC (AMY CONGER O'FLAHERTY)

SUBJECT: NOTE ON AMY CONGER O'FLAHERTY CASE

REF: (A) SANTIAGO 7362; (B) SANTIAGO 7264

1. FOMIN CARVAJAL FEB 4 HANDED TO AMBASSADOR NOTE NUMBER 2137 OF SAME DATE ON FLAHERTY CASE, ALONG WITH COPIES OF O'FLAHERTY'S TYPED AND SIGNED STATEMENT OF OCT 23, 1974, RECEIPTS FOR HER AND HER EFFECTS, HER WRITTEN STATEMENT, JACK ANDERSON ARTICLE, AIR FORCE (FACH) REPORT OF DEC 13 ON HER CASE, AND LETTER OF NOV 5 FROM HER TO DETAINED FRIEND, GUSTAVO CASTILLO. FONMIN NOTE AND ORIGINALS OF ATTACHED COPIES POUCHED TO ARA/BC FEB 7.

2. MATERIAL PRESENTED IS REASONABLY RESPONISVE TO EMBASSY'S REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION OF O'FLAHERTY'S TREATMENT WHILE UNDER DETENTION (REF B), ALTHOUGH, AS FACH REPORT NOTES, IT IS FACH'S WORD AGAINST HERS. FONMIN NOTE AND FACH REPORT MAKE SEVERAL OBSERVATIONS THAT APPEAR TO HAVE SOME VALIDITY; O'FLAHERTY WAS IN GOOD HEALTH WHEN RELEASED, AND AT THAT TIME AND UP TO ABOUT MONTH AFTERWARD SHE MADE NO COMPLAINT ABOUT MISTREATMENT. SHE WAS IN CLOSE AND PROLONGED TOUCH WITH "TERRORISTS" OF MOVEMENT OF REVOLUTIONARY LEFT (MIR). (HER STATEMENT BEARS THIS OUT; SHE DENIES IN IT HAVING WORKED FOR MIR, BUT AN INTELLIGENCE AGENT MIGHT READ FROM IT EVIDENCE OF LIAISON WORK AND HELP IN FINDING SAFE HAVEN.) NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 00868 071952Z

REASONABLE TO ACCUSE INTELLIGENCE AGENTS OF DRIVING

HER THROUGH CROWDED CITY WITH BARED BREASTS, SINCE AGENTS AVOID PUBLIC ATTENTION TO EXTEND POSSIBLE. CENTER WHERE O'FLAHERTY WAS HELD ID NOT CONTAIN STAIRWAY OF TYPE SHE DESCRIBED (EMBASSY CANNOT JUDGE THIS POINT); BUT IN ANY EVENT, KIND OF FALL DESCRIBED WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN BRUISES OR OTHER PHYSICAL INJURY THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN VISIBLE.

3. FACH REPORT ALSO CONTAINS NUMEROUS IRRELEVANT OR UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS.

4. FONMIN NOTE STATES THAT O'FLAHERTY'S CONTACTS WITH TERRORISTS WOULD HAVE JUSTIFIED HER TRIAL, AND HER RELEASE WAS RESULT OF "SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP" BETWEEN GOC AND USG. NOTE CONCLUDED THAT THIS INFORMATION WAS GIVEN TO EMBASSY TO SHOW FALSENESS OF O'FLAHERTY'S STATEMENTS AND "DAMAGE THIS KIND OF PUBLICATION CAUSES TO CHILEAN IMAGE ABROAD."
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